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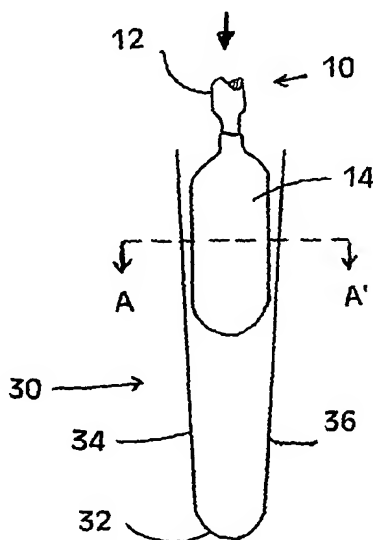
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **SAMPLING KITS, DEVICES AND USES THEREOF**



(57) Abstract: Disclosed are sampling kits and sampling devices and uses of the same. A sampling kit is disclosed including a swab (10) with a handle (12) and a swab head (14). The kit also includes a container (30) with an optional closure (70). Sampling head (14) is detachable from the handle (12) by engaging the sampling head with engagement means and moving the handle with respect to the engagement means. The engagement means may be formed on the closure or on the container. After detachment of the sampling head from the handle, the sampling head remains in the container. The container may then be sealed using sealing means (220). Also disclosed is a sampling kit containing processing means for initiating sample processing of sample collected. The processing means disclosed is an adsorbent cover means (88) which allows sample held by the sampling head to transfer to the cover means. In particular, the adsorbent material may be an impregnated paper which is capable of yielding amplifiable nucleic acid from buccal cells.

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**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

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- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/02800

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 A61B10/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B G01N C12M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 014 322 A (SHAH NAYAN S) 29 March 1977 (1977-03-29)  column 4, line 18 - line 36; figures 4,5 ---	1-3, 9, 10, 12, 13, 23-26, 30, 32, 33
X	EP 0 420 450 A (BIONOR AS) 3 April 1991 (1991-04-03)  column 4, line 24 - line 34; figure 2 --- -/--	1-3, 9-11, 20, 23, 24, 26, 28, 31, 33, 34, 38-40

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

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- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Date of mailing of the International search report

- 5. 12. 2003

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International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02 06791 A (BRIGHT GEOFFREY S ;INTERNAT BIOPRODUCTS INC (US); WARD N ROBERT JR) 24 January 2002 (2002-01-24)  page 4, line 18 - line 23; figure 3	1-3,9, 10,20, 23,24, 26,28, 31,33
X	US 4 175 008 A (WHITE DOUGLAS J) 20 November 1979 (1979-11-20)  column 5, line 9 - line 36; figures 4,5	1-3,9, 10,12, 13, 23-26, 30, 32-34, 39,40
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X	US 5 714 341 A (KLIMKOW NANETTE M ET AL) 3 February 1998 (1998-02-03) column 4, line 12 - line 19 column 5, line 15 - line 51	34,39
P,X	WO 03 028889 A (ORASURE TECHNOLOGIES INC) 10 April 2003 (2003-04-10) paragraph '0034!; figure 1	1,2,24, 25
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/GB 03/02800

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-33

Sampling kit with detachable sampling head and use thereof

2. Claims: 34-40

sampling kit with processing means

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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